

USAEC, WASHINGTON, D.C.

DIB 2122 45 Z

ACTION TO: CJTF-7 000186 INFO TO: CINCPAC

HDQTRS: USAF ATTN AFOAT

FOLLOWING IS TOKYO DTG 211855Z:

OPERATIONAL INMEDIATE

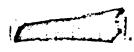
JUL 2 1 1958

"MARITIME SAFETY BOARD HAS RECEIVED INITIAL REPORTS FROM RABAUL ON CREUS OF TWO SHIPS CAUGHT IN FALLOUT NEAR TRUK ABOUT 100 HILES OUTSIDE DANGER ZONE. ONLY ONE SHIP, TAKUYO MARU, REPORTS FIGH RADIATION READING AUSTRALIAN HEALTH DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS IN RABAUL TODAY CHECKING BLOOD COUNTS OF BOTH CREWS. SHIPS HAVE REPORTED WHITE BLOOD COUNTS AS OF JULY 18 OF TEN CREW MEMBERS ON MAKEYO MARU BETHEEN 2,000 AND 4,000, AMOST ALL THESE COUNTS FELL 30-40 PERCENT FROM JULY 15 READING TAKEN ON SHIP. SEVEN OTHER CREW HIMSERS ON TAMBYO MARU BETHEEN 4,000 AND 4,900.

"AFTER CONFERENCE OF JAPANESE MARITIME AUTHORITIES WITH JAPANESE MEDICAL AND HEALTH AUTHORITIES, MARITIME SAFETY BOARD HAS BEEN ADVISED TO FLY AT MINIMUM 10 AND AT MOST 51 TOTAL CREW MEMBERS EACK TO JAPAN FOR TREATMENT. MARITIME SAFETY BOARD HAS INFORMALLY REWISSED OUR ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING FOR FLIGHTS. MSB HAS ALSO REQUIRENCED ADVICE ON MERPODS OF DECONTAMINATION FOR TARDYO MARU. THEIR EFFORTS DECONTAMINATE SHIP HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL.

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"TAKUYO MARU HAS WOOD DECK AND CANVASS AUNTINGS BOTH OF WHICH CREW UNABLE TO DECONTAMINATE. TAKUYO MARU REPORTS FOLLOWING ERRATIC SCINTILLATION COUNTER READINGS ON DECK; JULY 15 20,000; JULY 18 15,000.

"MSB MAKING EFFORT TO MINIMIZE PUBLICITY ON WHITE BLOOD COUNT FALL OF CREW MEMBERS IN ORDER NOT ALARM JAPANESE PUBLIC AND FISHERMEN NOW IN PACIFIC. DOUBTFUL THAT THESE EFFORTS WILL CONTINUE BE SUCCESSFUL SINCE PAPERS THIS MORNING ALREADY CARRYING SOME REPORTS.

"EMEASSY RECOMMENDS EVERY EFFORT BE MADE ASSIST JAPAN IN THIS
MATTER; SUGGEST AS INITIAL STEP MEDICAL TECHNICIANS AND EXPERTS
ON DECONTAMINATION BE FLOWN FROM ENTWETOK AT ONCE REPEAT AT ONCE
TO RABAUL TO INVESTIGATE.

"STATUS OF CREW MEMBERS AND SHIPS. IF FOLLOWING THEIR REPORT AND FURTHER REPORTS FROM AUSTRALIAN AUTRORITIES, JAPANESE STILL FEEL DESIRABLE TO FLY SOME OF CREW BACK TO JAPAN, RECOMMEND WE PROBIDE SPECIAL AIRCRAFT.

"THIS IS MOST UNFORTUNATE AFFAIR THAT COULD NOT HAVE COME AT WORSE TIME. AT BEST IT COULD VERY ADVERSELY AFFECT US-JAPANESE RELATIONS IN THERESO OF JAPANESE CRIMION. I THEREFORE FEEL STACUGLY IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO COOPERATE TO THE HILT WITH THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS TRYING TO MINIMIZE HOSTILE REACTION BY ACCEDING TO ITS WISHES."

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PARA STATE IS REPLYING TO TOKYO AND CANBERRA AS FOLLOWS:

"AS RECOMMENDED, AEC IS PREPARED TO SEND MEDICAL PERSONNEL

AND DECONTAMINATION EXPERTS FROM ENIMETOK TO INVESTIGATE THE

STATUS OF THE CREW MEMBERS AND THE TAKUYO MARU. THE ENIMETOK

TEAM COULD PRODUBLY ARRIVE WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER NOTIFIED BY

US HQ. EMBASSY TOKYO REQUESTED TO OBTAIN URGETTLY CONCURRENCE

OF THE MSB OR FOREIGN OFFICE TO HAVE US MEDICAL PERSONNEL ATTEND

THE JAP CREWMEN AND THE US TECHNICIANS TO TAKE DECONTAMINATION

INFORM DEPARTMENT AND US EMBASSY

MEASURES ON SHIP IF NEEDED. CANBERRA SCONEST RESULTS OF SUCH

APPROACH. ALSO STATE DATE FALLOUT TAKUYO MARU CONSENCED. IN

EVENT CONCURRENCE FORTHCOMING EMBASSY CANBERRA REQUESTED TO

OBTAIN LANDING PERMISSION OF PLANE AND OF US PERSONNEL AT

RABAUL."

PARA HAVE REQUESTED AFCAT TO TELETYPE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE INFORMATION AVAILABLE RELATIVE TO SUITABILITY OF RABAUL FOR C-54 LANDING. REQUEST CINCPAC
PROVIDE CJTP-7 INFORMATION IT HAY HAVE IN THIS REGARD.

SO (Handwritten ADS): MER for destruction Acting the Milst Surprise CC: Gen. Starbird (for msg. book)

Test Rdr

Locator

LI'A Files

Res. DIA = 8-1842 (State - 75290)

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